

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Compounds and methods are provided for the preparation of a red blood cell composition which has significantly reduced antigenicity and in which any possible pathogen contaminants have been substantially inactivated. The red blood cell compositions are of particular use for introduction into an individual in cases where the potential for an immune reaction is high, for example in alloimmunized blood recipients or in trauma situations where the possibility of transfusion of a mismatched unit of blood is higher. The red blood cell compositions of this invention provide a much lower risk of transfusion associated disease transmission as well as a much lower risk of a transfusion associated immune reaction.